

Spiders (Araneae) of the family Oonopidae in the Czech Republic

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Abstract: The oonopid spiders (Oonopidae), *Tapinesthis inermis* (Simon, 1882) and *Triaeris stenaspis* Simon, 1891, are recorded for the Czech Republic for the first time. *T. inermis* was redetermined from misidentified material and *T. stenaspis* was discovered in a greenhouse.

Key words: introduced species, faunistics, *Tapinesthis*, *Triaeris*

Although the family Oonopidae includes 487 described species worldwide (PLATNICK 2007), little attention has been paid to the faunistics and taxonomy of these spiders. Records from Europe are scarce, concern only a few species and – in most cases – only a few specimens were collected. In Central Europe seven species; namely *Ischnothyreus velox* Jackson, 1908, *Oonops domesticus* Dalmas, 1916, *O. pulcher* Templeton, 1835, *Orchestina pavesii* (Simon, 1873), *Silhouettella loricatula* (Roewer, 1942), *Tapinesthis inermis* (Simon, 1882) and *Triaeris stenaspis* Simon, 1891 (BLICK et al. 2004) have been recorded so far. All these species may occur in the Czech Republic, nevertheless none of them has been unequivocally recorded here until now. A single record of *O. domesticus* (BUCHAR & RŮŽIČKA 2002) is incorrect as this specimen was redetermined as *T. inermis* during this study.

Tapinesthis inermis (Simon, 1882)

Oonops domesticus Dalmas, 1916: ŠMAHA (1976) and subsequently ŠMAHA (1981), BUCHAR (1995), BUCHAR et al. (1995), BUCHAR & KŮRKA (2001), BUCHAR & RŮŽIČKA (2002), BLICK et al. (2004); misidentification.

This species can be distinguished from the other oonopid species occurring in Central Europe by an abdomen without a scutum and the tibia of leg I without ventral spines (Figs 1-3). See KRAUS (1967) for a detailed description.

Distribution: *T. inermis* is the only species known in the genus and occurs in the northern hemisphere. In Europe it was found in the Netherlands (VAN

HELSDINGEN 2003), Switzerland, Germany, Austria (BLICK et al. 2004), Belgium (VANUYTVEN 2006), Bulgaria (LAZAROV et al. 2001), southern Europe (HEIMER & NENTWIG 1991) and has been introduced to the USA (PLATNICK 2007). In Europe the species mostly occurs synanthropically (HEIMER & NENTWIG 1991), although it was also collected in natural habitats (KRAUS 1967, VAN HELSDINGEN 2003). It is thus possible that *T. inermis* is hemisynanthropic in larger cities (like Antwerp), where the general outdoor temperature is higher than in the countryside. Several specimens were found in dense ivy and close litter in more locations within the city of Antwerp (VAN KEER et al. 2006). All records for the Czech Republic (Fig. 9) come from indoors.

Material: Brewery, Praha 5-Smíchov (50° 04' 29" N, 14° 22' 55" E), 9 April 1964, 1 ♀, leg. E. Valešová-Žďárková, det. as juv. *Dysdera* sp., redet. M. Řezáč, private collection of S. Korenko; Egg-sorting warehouse, Mladá Boleslav-Čejtice (50° 24' 51" N, 14° 53' 15" E), 29 October 1973, 1 ♀, leg. J. Šmaha, det. as *O. domesticus*, redet. M. Řezáč, collection of National Museum Prague (NMPC); House interior, Hranice 4-Drahotuše (49° 33' 09" N, 17° 42' 07" E), 22 February 2003, 2 ♀ ♀, 2 juv., leg. J. Bezděk, det. M. Řezáč, private collection of S. Korenko & V. Hula.

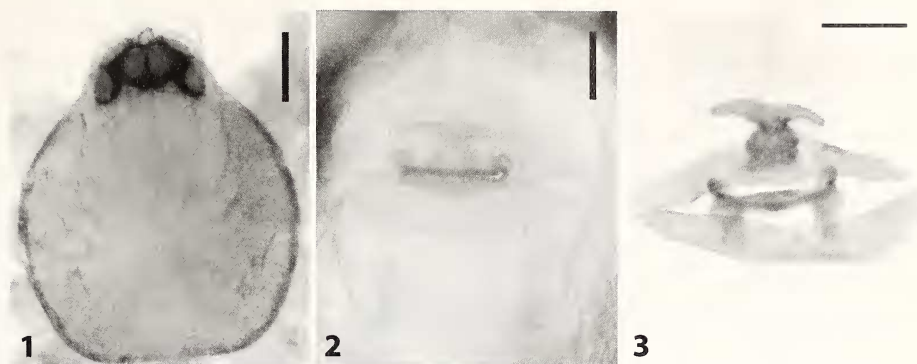
Other Material: Bathroom, Mainz-Gonsenheim, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany (49° 59' 53" N, 08° 12' 23" E), 25 October 2004, 1 ♀ (Fig. 2), leg. P. Jäger, collection of Research Institute and Natural History Museum Senckenberg, Frankfurt am Main (SMF).

Triaeris stenaspis Simon, 1891

This species can be distinguished from the other oonopids occurring in Central Europe by the presence of two scuta on the opisthosoma, the dorsal scutum covering less than 3/4 of the abdominal length and much larger than the ventral scutum (Figs 4-8). The male of this species has never been found. KOPONEN (1997) suggested that this species

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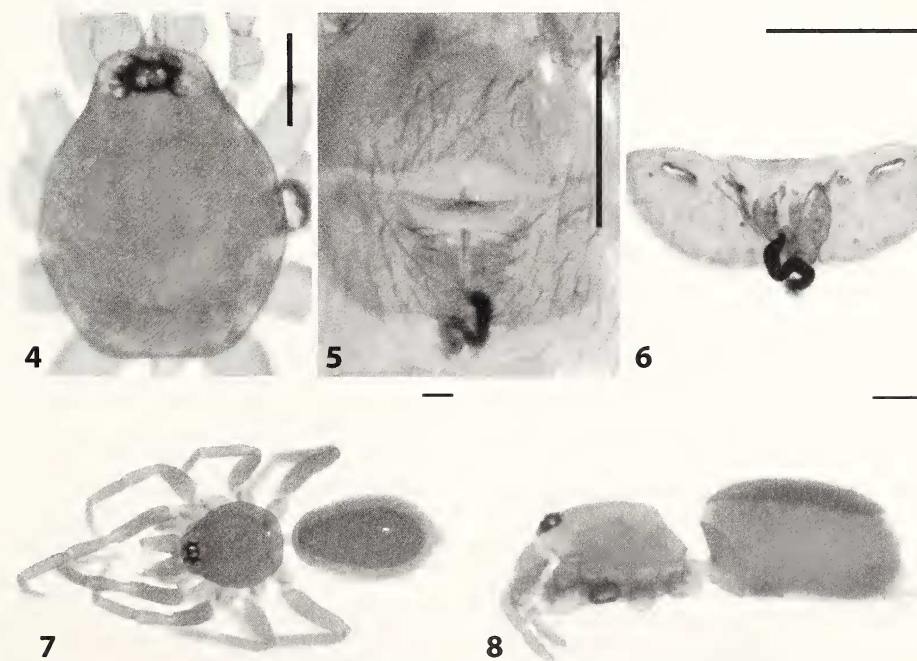
Figs 1-3: *Tapinesthis inermis* (Simon, 1882), female: 1- prosoma, dorsal view; 2- opisthosoma, ventral view; 3- vulva, ventral view. Scale = 0.2 mm.

is parthenogenetic. See MILLER & ŽITŇANSKÁ (1976) for a detailed description.

Distribution: The genus *Triaeris* contains 18 species occurring solely in the tropics. Of these only *T. stenaspis* has been introduced into Europe. This species was first described from the Caribbean island of St. Vincent (SIMON 1891) and according to PLATNICK (2007) it occurs from USA to Venezuela and in the West Indies. In Europe the species has been recorded from Great Britain, France, Belgium (HEIMER & NENTWIG 1991), Slovakia (MILLER & ŽITŇANSKÁ 1976) and Finland (KOPONEN

1997). The record from Belgium was later rejected (BLICK et al. 2004, VANUYTVEN 2006) because it was an unconfirmed verbal communication (Vanuytven in litt. 2007). In Europe the species has always been found within heated greenhouses. In the Czech Republic it was so far collected only from one place (Fig. 9), but it is expected to be present also in other cities.

Material: Greenhouse, Botanical Garden of the Masaryk University, Brno (49° 12' 17" N, 16° 35' 47" E), 18 October 2006, 1 ♀, leg. S. Korenko; same site, 21 October 2006, 15 ♀ + 3 juv., leg. S. Korenko, S. S. Henriques & M.



Figs 4-8: *Triaeris stenaspis* Simon, 1891, female: 4 - prosoma, dorsal view; 5 - opisthosoma, ventral view; 6 - vulva with a visible vestibulum, ventral view; 7 - habitus, dorsal view; 8 - habitus, lateral view. Scale = 0.2 mm.

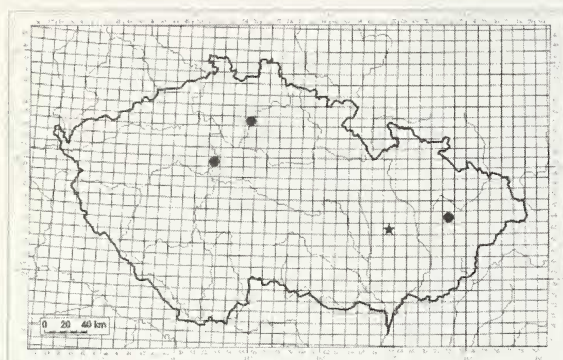


Fig. 9: Grid map of records of Oonopidae in the Czech Republic: ● - *Tapinesthis inermis*, ★ - *Triaeris stenaspis*.

Jarab; same site, 7 December 2006, 16 ♀ + 1 juv., leg. S. Korenko, S. S. Henriques & M. Jarab, all specimens det. S. Korenko & S. Pekár, private collection of S. Korenko.

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